



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY MEDICAL RESEARCH AND MATERIEL COMMAND
1077 PATCHEL STREET
FORT DETRICK, MD 21702-5024

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

May 2, 2001

Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs

Dear Colleague:

It is with hope and enthusiasm that we write to inform you of a unique funding opportunity, the Innovator Award, sponsored by the Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program (BCRP). The vision and investment strategy for the BCRP is determined by the Integration Panel (IP), a group of scientists, clinicians, and consumer advocates. The overall goal of the BCRP is to eradicate breast cancer, which we hope to accomplish by fostering new directions, addressing neglected issues, and bringing new investigators into the field of breast cancer research.

The Innovator Award is designed to provide accomplished, visionary scholars/investigators in any area of research with the funding (\$3 million for a period of up to 4 years) and freedom to pursue creative research that could ultimately accelerate the eradication of breast cancer. The Innovator Award embodies the philosophy of the BCRP and the IP—that innovation and creativity are necessary catalysts for the strides in research that must be made to conquer breast cancer. Throughout its existence, the BCRP has sought to empower the research community to identify critical breast cancer issues and to design and carry out innovative studies to address these issues.

In contrast to other awards offered by the BCRP that focus on specific research projects, the primary bases for selecting Innovator Award recipients are the talent and potential of the applicants. Acknowledging that critical insights often come from those with an outside perspective, we are looking for creative thinkers and leaders from *all* fields, not just the sciences traditionally involved in breast cancer research. A recipient will be asked to devote at least 50% of his/her efforts to breast cancer projects supported through this award. Additional information on the Innovator Award is available in the enclosed flyer. Please distribute this information to professional colleagues and interested individuals within your organization. We strongly urge you to encourage people that you believe could contribute significantly to the near-term eradication of breast cancer to consider applying for this unique new award.

Best regards,

Dennis Slamon, M.D., Ph.D.
Chair, BCRP Integration Panel
University of California Los Angeles
School of Medicine

Kenneth A. Bertram, M.D., Ph.D., F.A.C.P.
Colonel, U.S. Army Medical Corps
Director



Opportunity for Creative Thinkers



The QUESTION

Do you have a history of creativity and innovation in your career -- a reputation for “out-of-the-box” thinking in your field?

Do you believe that YOU can make a significant contribution to the *Eradication of Breast Cancer*?

The CHALLENGE

Dedicate at least 50% of your efforts over the next few years toward this worthy goal and apply for an INNOVATOR AWARD.

INNOVATOR AWARDS

- Receive up to \$3M total for a period of up to four years
- Applicants sought from ALL areas of investigation (biological and physical sciences, computer sciences, philosophy, economics, social sciences, etc.)
- Selection based on individual's talent and potential
- No prior breast cancer research required
- Traditional research proposal not required
- Letter of Intent required by **May 30, 2001**
- Complete application required by **June 13, 2001**

More information on the Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program and the Innovator Award is available at <http://cdmrp.army.mil> or by calling 301-619-7079. Complete requirements for Innovator Award applications are available in the BCRP March 19, 2001 Program Announcement II, which can be downloaded from <http://cdmrp.army.mil/funding/default.htm>.



Department of Defense
Breast Cancer Research Program

